

GRIM MAN, MYTH & LEGEND

The Grim and Havelock Association (1999-2010) conducted a deep and thorough historical re-examination of the classic British Legend of Grim, the founder of Grimsby, Havelock the Dane and Princess Goldborough. These are the characters featured on the ancient medieval seal of Grimsby.

During their quest to seek the truth behind the legend, they found clues in the Hand of Providence and Destiny, featured on the Grimsby Seal. They believed, this had never really been properly examined for its meaning before.

After much studying and careful evaluation, a picture emerged that convinced the Association there had indeed been a 'Great Grim.' Most likely, he was a seafarer and settler who founded the town of Grimsby within the former Kingdom of Lindsey.

There is no written documentation proving this, but the Association went further.

Their research led them to the conclusion that the seal and the famous bluestones of Grim and Havelock were linked.

The ancient and sacred blue stones are said to have come from Denmark with Grim to bring growth, prosperity and good fortune. The Hand of Providence on the seal represents this.



The original seal was made in 1201 and depicts the story of Grim, Havelock and Goldborough.

Can you see the 'Hand of Providence' above Grim's head?

THE BLUES STONES

The blue stones were saved and moved initially around 1960-61, two of which resided outside the former Doughty Museum.

Later, the Havelock Stone was re-sited on the lawn outside Welholme Galleries. It remained there for many years until very recently when it was moved to safety to the NEL Museum Service Stores.

Blue Stone written by Kevin Gracie
and Photography by Royston Naylor



These blue stones still remain within Grimsby today.
The Association linked these stones with the
Hand of Providence and Destiny on the Grimsby Seal.

*“Grains of truth can become
like seeds of corn, fields of plenty,
a golden harvest and abundance,
sustaining wealth for all.”*

Kevin Gracie

THE SEAL

For a long time, the seal was lost in the archives. The last mention of it was in an 1828 document, although it did reappear in the 1860's.

Kevin Gracie and Royston Naylor found it during their research stored at Welhome Galleries in early 2000's.



Kevin Gracie



Royston Naylor

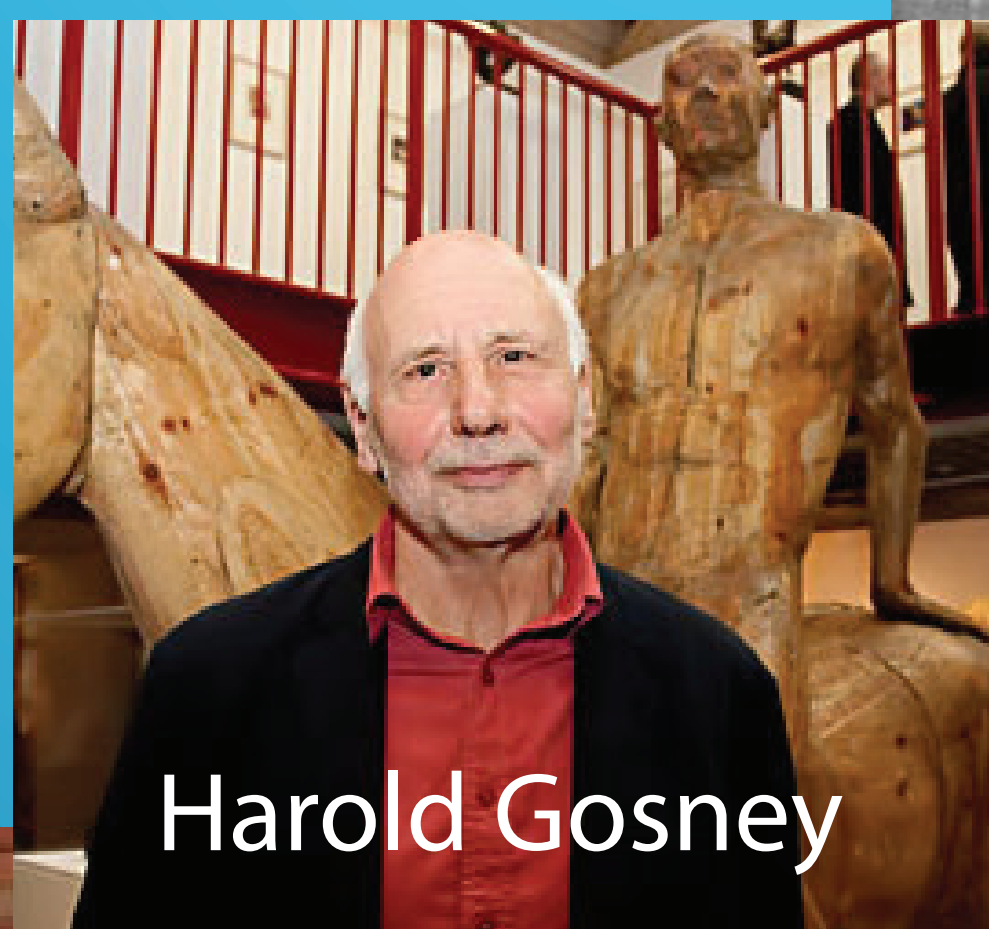


It was in an old cigar box. Gracie, along with John Wilson, a retired archivist, went to the British Museum to have it authenticated as the original, and not a Victorian replica.

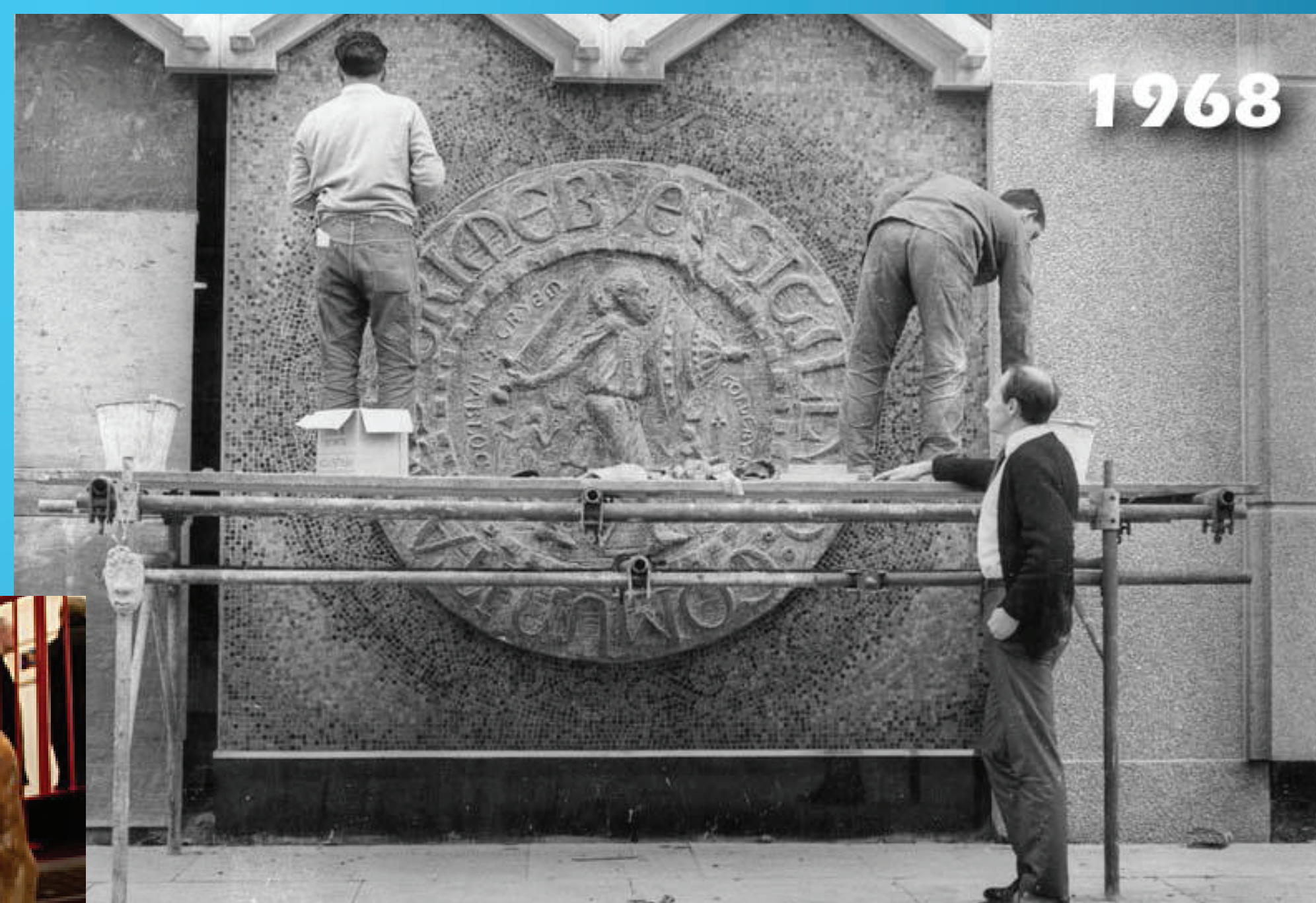
In the meantime, a drawing was made and artists, such as Harold Gosney, who studied art at the Grimsby Institute, recreated it.

Grimsby library has a relief of it.

Grim and Havelok themed copper relief on the side of the old Wilko store in Old Market Place, by Harold Gosney.



Harold Gosney



Harold Gosney directs the placing of the reproduction of the seal in 1968.

